

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO USDEL RIYADH FLASH

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2062

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T USUN 5637

EXDIS

RIYADH FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN XF

SUBJ: POSTPONEMENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

REF: SECTO 106

1. SC MEETING POSTPONED. NOW SCHEDULED FOR 10 A.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, AS CLOSED MEETING.

2. IF ARRANGING POSTPONEMENT WAS SLATED AS A CONCERT PERFORMANCE, THEN IT WAS A SOLO. MALIK WAS RESPONSIVE TO MAY APPROACH. HE SAID HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS AND WOULD, OF COURSE, SUPPORT POSTPONEMENT OF MEETING SINCE HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE ACTION IF IT WERE HELD. HE DID SPEAK TO ONE OR TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS -- HE MENTIONED INDIA AND YUGOSLAVIA -- BUT LEFT FRONT RUNNING ENTIRELY TO ME AND MADE IT CLEAR TO ALL HE WAS GOING ALONG WITH AMERICAN REQUEST. SC PRESIDENT HUANG HUA OPTED OUT ON GROUNES HE AS PRESIDENT WAS SERVANT OF COUNCIL. IF COUNCIL MEETING WERE TO BE POSTPONED IT WOULD BE UP TO ME TO PERSUADE MEMBERSHIP. UK'S MAITLAND STRONGLY PREFERRED MEETING TODAY AND BELIEVED

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THAT DRAFT RESOLUTION COUCHED IN SUCH GENERAL TERMS THAT

ITS ADOPTION TODAY WOULD NOT HAVE ANY EFFECT ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFERENCE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL TO UK TO HAVE IT ADOPTED BEFORE WEEKEND MEETING OF EC-9 IN COPENHAGEN. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO BE HARMFUL IN ANY WAY TO US INTERESTS AND WOULD THEREFORE HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO POSTPONEMENT. HE STOOD ON SIDE LINES FROM THERE OUT.

3. INDIA'S SEN WAS HELPFUL IN ROUNDING UP NON-ALIGNED. MUCH OF THIS WAS DONE AT HUANG HUA'S LUNCHEON FOR SC, AND THERE WAS GENERAL FEELING THAT WE ARE ON EDGE OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS AND THAT US REQUEST WAS A SERIOUS ONE.

4. HOWEVER, THERE HAD BEEN GENERAL AND RISING ANTICIPATION OF MEETING TODAY WHICH WOULD CONCLUDE ISSUE AND GIVE SYG GREEN LIGHT FOR TRAVEL TO GENEVA. WE HAVE MADE POINT HE DOES NOT, OF COURSE, NEED MANDATE TO GO TO GENEVA, BUT THERE IS STRONG FEELING THAT COUNCIL ACTION DESIRABLE BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. HE HAS AIR RESERVATIONS FOR SATURDAY NIGHT AND MATTER HAS ASSUMED UNUSUAL IMPORTANCE IN COUNCIL THINKING AND INDEED IN WALDHEIM'S OWN APPROACH.

5. AFTER SOME MOVEMENT AND TALK AROUND LUNCHEON TABLE BY YUGOSLAV, MOJSOV AND OTHERS, SEN, WHO WAS SEATED NEXT TO MALIK AND OPPOSITE ME, LEANED OVER AND PRESENTED FOLLOWING AS CONDITIONS POSTPONEMENT OF MEETING:

A. NO FURTHER DELAY BEYOND SATURDAY MORNING;
B. NO CHANGE OF TEXT;
C. NO ENCOURAGEMENT OF ANY NON-MEMBER OF SC TO PARTICIPATE (THERE IS SUSPICION ON PART OF SOME THAT US WANTED TO ARRANGE MEETING IN WAY TO ALLOW ISRAEL TO TAKE THE FLOOR).

I RESPONDED TO SEN THAT I WAS SURE WE WERE BOTH AWARE THAT IF HE WERE ASKING FOR ASSURANCES ON THE ABOVE, OBVIOUSLY I WAS NOT IN POSITION TO GIVE THEM. I WOULD REPORT THEM IMMEDIATELY, HOWEVER, AS SYMBOLIC OF FEELING IN COUNCIL. MALIK JOVIALY INDICATED HIS APPROVAL AND HUANG HUA WAS AN INTERESTED LISTENER. SEN LATER WARNED THAT IF
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WE DID NOT GO ALONG ON BASIS ABOVE CONDITIONS WE WOULD FIND OURSELVES IN TROUBLE ON TWO COUNTRS: (1) PEOPLE WOULD GO ALONG WITH FRENCH INSISTENCE FOR OPEN MEETING, AND (2) TEXT WOULD BE STRENGTHENED IN EFFORT TO PROVIDE MORE SC CONTROL OF EVENTS.

6. MALIK TOLD ME AFTER LUNCHEON THAT IF HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS BY TIME OF TOMORROW'S MEETING, HE WOULD

ABSTAIN ON WHAT IS CLEAR DETERMINATION OF OTHER MEMBERS
TO ADOPT TEXT NOW PENDING. TEXT NOW HAS CO-SPONSORSHIP OF
ALL TEN NON-PERM MEMBERS. MALIK SAID EARLIER HE
HAD TOLD MOSCOW HE EXPECTED NON-ALIGNED TO INSIST
ON ACTION DECEMBER 13 AND THOUGHT WE HAD ACHIEVED CONSIDERABLE
VICTORY IN HOLDING OFF SC MEETING TO DECEMBER 14. HE
HIMSELF FOUND TEXT ACCEPTABLE AND DID NOT BELIEVE WE COULD
GET ANOTHER POSTPONEMENT BEYOND DECEMBER 15.

7. FROM OUTSET THREE HAS BEEN STRONG AND ALMOST UNANIMOUS
SUSPICION ON PART OF SC MEMBERS THAT ISRAELIS ARE FOOT
DRAGGING AND WILL SEEK TO DRAW MATTERS OUT SO THAT THEIR
ACCEPTANCE OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION (AND ACTIONS
EXPECTED FROM SC) WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED UNTIL SECRETARY'S
VISIT TO TEL AVIV. IF WE CANNOT GO ALONG TOMORROW. THIS
WILL BE SEEN HERE AS TRIBUTE TO ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE.
WHILE WE OBVIOUSLY NOT INFORMED ON ALL THE COMPLEXITIES
YOU FACE, AND HAVE NO DESIRE TO BURDEN YOU WITH OUT-OF-
PHASE RECOMMENDATIONS, I BELIEVE OUR BEST CHANCE OF MAINTAINING
A RESPONSIBLE MOOD IN SC AND AVOIDING FUTURE COUNCIL
ACTION WHICH WOULD COMPLICATE PEACE EFFORTS
LIES IN OUR ACCEPTANCE OF NON-PERM TEXT AT SC MEETING
DECEMBER 15.
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